

# Delavirdine

*de-la-VIR-deen*

**Brand Name:** Rescriptor

**Drug Class:** Non-nucleoside Reverse Transcriptase Inhibitors

Delavirdine mesylate, also known as Rescriptor, is a type of medicine called a nonnucleoside reverse transcriptase inhibitor (NNRTI). NNRTIs block reverse transcriptase, a protein that HIV needs to make more copies of itself.

## HIV/AIDS-Related Uses

Delavirdine was approved by the FDA on April 4, 1997, for use with other antiretroviral medications in the treatment of HIV infection in adults. Delavirdine does not cure or prevent HIV infection or AIDS and does not reduce the risk of passing the virus to other people.

## Dosage Form/Administration

Delavirdine comes in tablet form and is taken by mouth. Avoid taking delavirdine within 1 hour of taking didanosine (Videx or ddI) or antacids. Delavirdine 100 mg tablets may be dissolved in water if patients are unable to swallow pills.

## Recommended Daily Dose

The recommended dose of delavirdine for adults is 400 mg (four 100 mg or two 200 mg tablets) three times a day. Some patients may benefit from different doses of delavirdine. Patients should always take delavirdine as prescribed by their doctor.

## Contraindications

Individuals who have liver disease should tell a doctor before taking this medicine. Certain medications may affect the functioning of the liver; patients taking these medications should not take delavirdine.

## Possible Side Effects

Along with its desired effects, delavirdine can cause some unwanted effects. One rare but serious side effect of this medicine is a type of severe skin rash that is accompanied by blisters, fever, joint or muscle pain, redness and swelling of the eyes, sores in the mouth, and swelling. Delavirdine may also cause serious kidney problems with symptoms including agitation; coma; confusion; dark urine; decreased urine output; depression; dizziness;

headache; hostility; irritability; lack of energy; loss of appetite; muscle twitching; nausea; rapid weight gain; seizures (convulsions); swelling of face, ankles, or hands; and unusual tiredness or weakness. Another possible serious side effect is a type of anemia that causes back, leg, or stomach pains; bleeding gums; chills; dark-colored urine; fever; general body swelling; headache; loss of appetite; nausea or vomiting; nosebleeds; pale skin; sore throat; trouble breathing; and yellow eyes or skin. Another possible side effect is a liver problem that causes dark-colored urine, general feeling of tiredness or weakness, headache, light-colored stools, stomach pain, vomiting that does not stop, and yellow eyes or skin. Another possible side effect is a type of muscle problem that causes dark-colored urine, fever, muscle cramps or spasms, muscle pain or stiffness, and unusual tiredness and weakness. Individuals should tell a doctor if they have any of these side effects.

Other side effects may not be serious and may lessen or disappear with continued use of the medicine. Many people who take delavirdine report having rash on the upper body and arms within the first 1 to 3 weeks they are taking the medication. This rash usually goes away within about 2 weeks. Other less serious side effects of this medicine include diarrhea, nausea, vomiting, unusual tiredness, and headache. Individuals should tell a doctor if these side effects continue or are bothersome.

## Drug and Food Interactions

A doctor should be notified of any other medications being taken, including prescription, nonprescription (over-the-counter), or herbal medications.

## Clinical Trials

For information on clinical trials that involve Delavirdine, visit the ClinicalTrials.gov web site at <http://www.clinicaltrials.gov>. In the Search box,

# Delavirdine



## **Clinical Trials (cont.)**

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enter: Delavirdine AND HIV Infections.

## **Manufacturer Information**

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Pfizer Inc  
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(800) 438-1985

Rescriptor  
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## **For More Information**

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Contact your doctor or an AIDSinfo Health Information Specialist:

- Via Phone: 1-800-448-0440 Monday - Friday, 12:00 p.m. (Noon) - 5:00 p.m. ET
- Via Live Help: [http://aidsinfo.nih.gov/live\\_help](http://aidsinfo.nih.gov/live_help) Monday - Friday, 12:00 p.m. (Noon) - 4:00 p.m. ET